

VASSAR

Spring 2018

LIFELONG  LEARNING
INSTITUTE

COURSE SCHEDULE AND INDEX

LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT VASSAR

We are an adult educational program affiliated with Vassar College offering a broad range of non-credit educational courses and activities to members 55 and over at a minimal cost. Classes are taught by volunteer members, retired and active faculty, and outside experts. LLI at Vassar College is a volunteer-run organization. It is designed for adults who love to learn and who wish to contribute to the larger community in their pursuit of knowledge.

The LLI (Lifelong Learning Institute) at Vassar College believes that education is essential at every age. We are called on to continually expand our knowledge, so we might participate fully as citizens in our democracy. The education process is individually motivated as well as collaborative, with new ideas and new skills often introduced by others with a commitment to sharing. As we age, life experiences enhance our education. We are fortunate that members with unique perspectives, skills, and expertise are willing to share them with us.

Vassar's LLI is committed to forming a community that will advance the education of its members in a collaborative fashion. When we study, explore, and discuss together, we model engagement and expansion for each other. Most classes will be conducted in small groups to promote discussion, informed by the interests and knowledge of both volunteer instructors and LLI members.

CONTACT

Lifelong Learning Institute at Vassar College
124 Raymond Ave., Box 45
Poughkeepsie, NY 12604

Office: Blodgett Hall 237

Phone: 845-437-7229

E-mail: lli@vassar.edu

Website: lifelonglearning.vassar.edu

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Friday 9:30-10:45 AM Classes

Opera as Politics (ARTS001)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 100

Opera has been a major art form in Western society for over 400 years, with much to say about politics. This course looks at governmental, sexual, economic, religious and political issues as expressed in opera. A close examination of significant operas and their political contexts, and a look at the current state of opera as a political vehicle are part of the course. We will view operatic video performances in class as political themes are developed. No technical musical knowledge is required and familiarity with opera is not assumed.

Presenter: Chuck Mishaan

Chuck Mishaan has been an opera aficionado since the days of \$2.00 tickets at the old Metropolitan Opera House. He briefly appeared in a non-singing role on stage at the new Met, and is a regular attendee at this world-class venue. He was an adjunct professor at NYU, teaching about technology and its impact on health care, and consults with health-care providers on automating their clinical practice. He has presented "Opera as Politics" at several area LLI's and is currently preparing Semester IV of this popular operatic survey.

Evidence for an Afterlife (LIFE003)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 30

Does reliable evidence exist suggesting that there is indeed an afterlife? Is there a survival of consciousness? Is there a bridge between this world and the unseen world? This course examines data from case studies and scientific experiments to shed light on these questions. Topics will include such things as near-death experiences, psychic phenomena, mediumship, and synchronicity. Group discussions will be an important aspect of the course and participants will be welcome to share personal experiences if so desired. A skeptical yet open-minded outlook is ideal in examining these topics.

Presenter: Dr. Paul Coleman

Dr. Paul Coleman is a psychologist with over 30 years experience and the author of a dozen books including his most recent "Finding Peace When Your Heart Is in Pieces." He has appeared nationally on shows such as Oprah and Today, been quoted in national magazines such as Reader's Digest and Time, and has appeared on dozens of radio programs across the country. He also has appeared in several dozen stage plays in community theater. A play he wrote "The Footshooters" was independently produced Off-Off Broadway in 2011.

Learn To Play Duplicate Bridge (LIFE008)

Wednesdays 9:30-11:00am April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 18, 29

Limit: 50

Location: Hellenic Center, 54 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie

This is a course for beginner and intermediate players. Each class will include a 45-minute lesson followed by supervised play. Subjects will include: bidding, hand evaluation, reaching the right contract, competing, opening leads, and play of the hand.

Presenter: Lynn Baker

Lynn Baker is a Teacher of Beginner and Intermediate Duplicate Bridge, Silver Life Master, Past President of the Dutchess County Bridge Assn.

How to Identify and Reduce Your Risks for Falling (LIFE001)

April 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 20

Through a mix of lecture, demonstration, discussion and exercise participants will learn to identify and lower their risks for falling. Lectures will cover the most recent research on fall risks and effective methods of addressing each risk. The exercise component will include demonstration and practice of exercises proven to be effective in reducing fall risk. During this component, the accompanying lecture will elaborate on the rationale for each type

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Fridays 11:00-12:15 PM Classes

of exercise - flexibility, strengthening, balance and endurance. Participants will be encouraged to match their personal goals, physical capabilities and activity preferences to design their own fall-prevention exercise programs.

Presenter: Anne Lancellotti, PT, DPT

Anne Lancellotti, PT, DPT was a physical therapist for thirty years. For twenty-three years, she had a private practice in Poughkeepsie. Since retiring in November, 2014, Dr. Lancellotti has consulted for the Dutchess County Office for the Aging. In this capacity, she organizes and trains coaches for the OFA's fall prevention program, A Matter Of Balance. Dr. Lancellotti has studied and lectured on fall prevention for over fifteen years. During her last five years in private practice, she has increasingly focused on the treatment of older adults at risk for falling.

American First Ladies (SOCIO01)

April 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 30

This course will introduce the early First Ladies of the United States and the parts they played in their husbands' lives. Their views, who they were, how they participated as "First Ladies," and how they defined the role of First Ladies in a totally new environment and established protocols that exist to this day.

Presenter: Jim Williams

Jim Williams, retired from IBM, also collects books, and has a library on many figures of our country. He and Charles Ford have been lecturing at the Mount, Marist, Maximum Security Prison Wallkill, NY. and other venues since 2007.

Presenter: Charles Ford

Charles Ford, retired from NY Life, collects books and has always loved history.

2A. Charles Dickens: Multi-Media Mogul (ARTS002) **Fridays 11:00am-12:15pm April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18 Limit: 50**

We will focus on two of Charles Dicken's most beloved novels, David Copperfield and Great Expectations. In addition to discussing the novels, we will explore the varying modes of publication Dickens employed; his use of illustrations (which he carefully controlled); his public performances; and subsequent famous film treatments of these two novels, George Cukor's 1935 "David Copperfield," and David Lean's 1946 "Great Expectations." Dickens also edited a series of magazines in which he published some of his own work and that of his contemporaries. I intend to arrange trips to the Vassar College Special Collections, to see Dicken's original publications.

Participants may choose David Copperfield (first 4 weeks), Great Expectations (last 3 weeks) or both.

Presenter: Joanne Long DeMaria

Joanne Long DeMaria earned a Ph.D. in English Literature at Rutgers University, with an emphasis on 19th Century British Fiction. Her dissertation was on the novels of George Eliot. She taught in the English department at Vassar from 1984-2014, her courses including many and various Freshmen Writing Seminars, the Literary Essay (a writing course), 19th Century Novel, and a six-week multi-media course on Charles Dickens. After many years in the classroom, she worked in the Dean of Studies Office for numerous years, as Class Advisor, as Dean of Freshmen and as Dean of Studies.

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Women of the Bible: bringing their voices to life (ARTS003)

April 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 30

For much of Jewish history, Biblical women have been erased, silenced, seen mainly through the eyes of men. With the emergence of modern midrash (revising stories, creating new interpretations and commentaries), biblical women have emerged as strong individuals. In this series, we will select from Adam's first wife, Lilith, Noah's wife, Serach bat Asher and the assertive daughters of Zelophehad as well as some better known characters—Sarah, Miriam, and the women of the Exodus.

Through reading and Biblio-drama, we will create our own “midrashim” to bring meaning to these women's lives and to our own.

Presenter: Muriel Horowitz

I am a storyteller and retired teacher. I have many collections of folktales and legends. I craft and tell stories from a variety of traditions, especially my own Jewish Heritage, and have done many workshops and taught a couple of CLS classes.

Impressionism and Post Impressionism (ARTS004)

April 6, 13, 20, 27

Limit: 100

In this slide lecture series we will explore the art of some of the Impressionists and Post Impressionists. Manet, Monet, Renoir, Degas, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cezanne and Seurat will be the focus of the course. We shall see the influences on their art as well as art and artists each of them may have influenced. We will try to understand the unique contributions of each of these painters through their art and ideas.

Presenter: Marilyn Price

Marilyn Price attended Cooper Union, majoring in painting. She also studied at N.Y.U., obtaining her undergraduate degree in Fine Arts. She completed her graduate studies at N.Y.U. and Columbia University in painting and art history.

Marilyn chaired the Art Department at Columbia Preparatory School in New York City for 29 years, where she taught Painting, Art History, and Ceramics and Sculpture. For the last seven years she has been teaching Art History, and Painting and Drawing in the Marist Center for Lifetime Study at Locust Grove.

Acupuncture: A 5000-year-old Healing Art (LIFE004)

April 6, 13, 20, 27

Limit: 25

This course is series of interactive lectures and demonstrations on acupuncture and Chinese herbs and what they can do for YOU. It will explain how acupuncture is used to treat and heal illnesses and diseases for people of all ages. Arthritis, fibromyalgia, intestinal problems, sinusitis, asthma, allergies, sciatica and back pain are some of the common ailments which can be treated successfully by acupuncture and Chinese herbs. Acupuncture is particularly successful when “Western” medicine and intervention fail, and does not have any of the side effects of drugs.

Presenter: Detlef (Ted) F. Wolf, L.Ac.

Detlef (Ted) F. Wolf, L.Ac. is a licensed acupuncturist and Chinese Herbalist who has been practicing for the last 25 years in the Hudson Valley. He has lectured extensively in colleges, schools and health fairs, both locally and nationally. During these years he has successfully treated many diseases and illnesses in both children and adults, using a holistic approach with acupuncture and Chinese herbs. Dr. Wolf has a practice on Titusville Road in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Fridays 2:00-3:15 PM Classes

Sherlock Holmes (ARTS005)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 25

We will read and discuss selected works by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (M.D.) featuring Sherlock Holmes & Dr. Watson. The stories are set in England at the end of the

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Victorian Period and enhanced by Dr. Doyle's medical knowledge. We will explore these topics as essential background to the stories.

Presenter: Steven Bassin

Steven Bassin has previously taught at The New School, N.Y.U., Pratt Institute, The School of Visual Arts and Bard. His specialty is Mystery Fiction and has recently taught many courses at Bard LLI, including a course on Sherlock Holmes. Mr. Bassin is an attorney & Federal Court Mediator. He is also a member of the Director's Guild of America, director, producer and writer.

Here's Looking At You, Kid: Film & Politics (SOC1003)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 40

This course disputes the Hollywood myth that it is in the "entertainment business." While it is true that the industry produces mostly commercial films, anywhere from 5 to 10 percent of films each year deliver political messages, both overt and covert. From films on race like "Birth of a Nation" and "The Help," to recreated stories like "Argo" and "Zero Dark Thirty," to historical pieces such as "Lincoln" and "The Conspirator," Hollywood uses the screen to enter the world of politics. The course is based on the fourth edition of my book, *Here's Looking at You: Hollywood, Film & Politics*.

Presenter: Ernest Giglio

Ernest Giglio is Professor Emeritus of Politics & American Studies and a Fulbright Exchange Scholar. He received his Ph.D. from Syracuse University and during his 30+ year-long career he has taught both in the U.S. and abroad. His signature course on film & politics has been presented to students in England, Finland and Switzerland as well as at the Rhode Island School of Design, Manhattanville College and Lycoming College. He has appeared on PBS, NPR and the BBC.

The Photo Series: Exploring The Familiar To Tell Your Story (ARTS007)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 10

This is a course for students who would like to build a cohesive series of 10-12 images. How does a photography series differ from a set of individual, unrelated pictures? What kinds of stories will we find if we return to a familiar location instead of constantly searching for the next unexplored place? Weekly presentations on contemporary artists, combined with shooting assignments and short, in-class writing exercises will aid students in learning how to write and speak about their photographs. Class discussions of students' work will build towards the final week in which they present their completed photography series.

Presenter: Sasha Louis Bush

Sasha Louis Bush is a Queens-based visual artist who primarily works with photographs. Bush holds an MFA from ICP-Bard (2017) and a BA from Hampshire College (2009). His practice centers on temporal and site-specific activities that encourage participants to occupy dual roles as students and teachers to examine the process of learning. Recently, he has frequented elementary school classrooms as an alternate hypothetical studio space that serves students and artist alike. By focusing on school supplies-stacks of paper, egg cartons and paintbrushes, Bush's black and white photographs observe states of creativity ranging from disorientation to geometric order.

Music as Energy (ARTS006)

April 6, 13, 20, 27

Limit: 20

This course is for those who desire to listen to, learn about, and discuss music within the framework of energy impulses. Participants will be asked to observe and

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comment on musical energies and synergies that define a truly remarkable acoustic experience. Most selections will be western instrumental art music; other genres may be included. This course will help participants develop the ability to:

1. listen actively
2. observe energy impulses contained in musical
3. expression
4. identify the energy impulses that make a piece of music particularly compelling
5. express observations utilizing musical terms explore music further on their own

Participants will be asked to attend a live performance, and depending on the choice, may incur the cost of a ticket.

Presenter: Jeannie Kern Chenette

Jeannie Kern Chenette has been the featured performer in concerts sponsored by the Hudson Valley's Con Brio, Iowa Arts Council, Great Lakes Harpers, and Orchestra Iowa, where she held the principal harp position. A dedicated teacher and composer of pedagogical harp works, Ms Chenette has seen her ensemble arrangements and solo collections, published through Prairie Harp Music, featured at harp festivals and conferences nationwide. She holds a MM in Harp Performance from the New England Conservatory and the BM Ed from Butler University. Faculty appointments in music theory and harp at Iowa State University, Grinnell College, and SUNY Dutchess.

How the Dutch Created America(SOCI002)

April 6, 13, 20, 27

Limit: 100

The Dutch, not the English, gave America its start in becoming the world's greatest superpower, and they accomplished that feat in only 40 years before being pushed aside by the growing British Empire. Our Dutch roots are still here, however, and need little work to be uncovered. Many of the things we take for granted, like our Constitutional Rights, can be traced back to early Dutch society. We will start with the earliest of European explorers,

searching for a better route to the treasures of the East, and show how that led to our American nation and its culture.

Presenter: Robert Ulrich

After completing a 30-year career with IBM, Mr. Ulrich discovered the rich history of the Hudson Valley. Starting with the Dutch, the first Europeans to develop a well functioning society here, his interests now span through the end of Revolutionary War. Using sources that include Old Dutchess Forever by former Vassar President Henry Nobel MacCracken, he has turned the mundane study of name/dates/places into interesting and memorable stories that will, with the addition of his many slides and exhibits, hold your interest and even, perhaps, send you off on your own "Voyage of Discovery."

Fridays 3:30-4:45 PM Classes

Gentle Yoga(LIFE006)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 25

In each class we will engage in gentle yoga postures and flows suitable for most people at any level of experience in yoga. We will try to respond to how we are on a given day, so there will be no set routine or sequence. We will emphasize care in positions and transitions, adjust for each unique body, and avoid pushing past our physical limits. This class will be experiential and meditative, but will involve little, if any, discussion of the philosophy of yoga. Yoga, especially gentle yoga, can be beneficial for persons with physical limitations.

If you have limitations, please check with your health care provider before choosing this course.

Presenter: Steve Kenney

I have been practicing various styles of yoga at local yoga studios and gyms daily since 2004. For the past year I have been teaching yoga on a volunteer basis at Vassar College. From a local yoga studio I have a 200-hour certi

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fication to teach yoga recognized by the Yoga Alliance. I have found the practice of yoga to be a wonderful antidote to the hectic pace and excessive emphasis on efficiency and productivity that afflicts some aspects of life for many of us. For 29 years I enjoyed teaching math and stats in a local public high school.

Ecce Lingua Latina!(ARTS008)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18 Limit: 10

Whether you remember a bit of Latin from your youth, or have never before studied the language, this class will kindle your verbal imagination as we approach the Latin language through the stories of Ovid. Rather than being a dead language, Latin is an immortal language, the source of two thirds of our English words, and the ancestor of the Romance languages such as Italian, French and Spanish. Improve your speaking, reading and writing skills and join the conversation, which has been ongoing for 2000 years.

Presenter: Ann Patty

Ann Patty is the author of *Living with a Dead Language, My Romance with Latin* (Viking/Penguin 2016). She began learning Latin at the age of 60, and for the past six years has continued auditing college Latin courses. Before becoming a writer she worked in New York trade publishing for over thirty years. She was the founder and publisher of The Poseidon Press (Simon & Schuster) and an executive editor at Crown Publishers and Harcourt Inc. She teaches Latin to both teens and adults at local libraries.

Exploring Science at Vassar College: Seven Lectures by Science Professors at Vassar College (SCIE001)

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 30

Producer: David Bloom

The Anthropocene: a proposed new epoch of geologic time

April 6

In 2000, atmospheric scientist Paul Cruzen proposed that a new epoch of geologic time be identified and named “the Anthropocene.” The moniker was proposed in order to recognize the outsized effect of human beings on the planet. This proposal has met with much controversy from within and outside of the geological community. The term has captured the imagination of the popular press and others interested in environmental degradation and the sixth mass extinction. This class will consider “the Anthropocene” by explaining the nature of the controversy and the advantages and disadvantages of recognizing this new epoch of time.

Presenter: Jill Schneiderman

Jill Schneiderman is professor at Vassar College where she teaches courses in the earth science department and the program in science, technology, and society.

Restoration Ecology and the Creation of Sustainable Landscapes

April 13

Dr. Edith Roberts, Professor of Botany at Vassar College from 1919-1949, is best known for co-authoring an influential book on landscaping with native plants and for establishing the Dutchess County Ecological Laboratory on the Vassar College campus. Roberts’ outdoor laboratory included all the major plant associations found in Dutchess County and was one of the earliest ecological restoration projects in the country. This course will examine what elements of those original plantings remain, how the site has transitioned over time, the perspective the site provides for current restoration efforts, and its value as a teaching tool for current students.

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Presenter: Meg Ronsheim

Meg Ronsheim is a Professor of Biology and a former Director of the Environmental Studies Program at Vassar College. She received her BA at Earlham College and her PhD from Duke University in Evolutionary Ecology. Her research focuses on restoration ecology, the impact and management of invasive vines, and forest regeneration.

Numbers: Primes from Greece to the Internet

April 20

Prime numbers are only divisible by themselves and one. The first few are 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, ...

Why are they important? What do we know about them? I will discuss some highlights from the mathematical theory of numbers that concern the primes. We'll learn how the primes are building blocks of all counting numbers, and how a product of prime numbers makes communications secure.

Presenter: John McCleary

John McCleary is Professor of Mathematics at Vassar College on the Elizabeth Stillman Williams Chair. He has a PhD in Mathematics from Temple University. His main research area is algebraic topology, but he has strong interests in the history of mathematics and number theory. He is the author of several books, most recently, *Exercises in (Mathematical) Style*, published by the Mathematical Association of America.

Climate change and ecosystem response: do systems care if climate changes?

April 27

Ecosystems are the cornerstones of life on this planet, thus understanding and recognizing what makes an ecosystem healthy is key. Changing climate has impacted ecosystems across this planet, making many less healthy. This lecture will discuss what ecosystems are, what characteristics make them healthy and how they are responding to climate change.

Presenter: Lynn Christenson

Lynn Christenson is an Associate Professor of Biology. Lynn completed her Masters and Ph.D. degrees at SUNY human driven changes including atmospheric pollution, ESF, Syracuse in 1997 and 2007 respectively. She studies plant, soil and animal interactions that are impacted by invasive species and climate. Her work includes studies on large ungulates including moose and deer and how changes in climate will impact these organisms in the environments that they occupy.

Nanotechnology for Energy Storage

May 4

We will discuss the chemistry of several types of common batteries and the current research in our lab using carbon nanotubes and Prussian blue for electron transfer and storage. We will also look at the difference between batteries and capacitors as energy storage devices and the possibility of combining the two into one device using carbon nanotubes.

Presenter: Stuart Belli

Stuart Belli received a B.S. in chemistry at the University of California at Riverside in 1977 and a Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry from UC Santa Barbara in 1984. After 2 years in a postdoctoral fellowship in Dr. Gary Rechnitz's lab at the University of Delaware developing novel chemical sensors, he joined the faculty at Vassar College in the chemistry department. In his time at Vassar, Stuart has worked on such diverse projects as polymer membrane microfluidics, method development for measuring carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus in stream seston, the application of hydrodynamic voltammetry to study antioxidant properties of food compounds, and electrochemical applications of carbon nanotubes. He is currently director of the Environmental Studies program at Vassar College and plays saxophone for Tin Horn Uprising.

Amber Stories through Chemistry

May 11

Amber is fossilized resin from trees that took millions of years to form through oxidation and polymerization

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reactions of terpene molecules. Most ambers date to the Cretaceous and Tertiary periods, which corresponds to about 60-90 million years ago. Amber was a valuable trade good in the ancient Mediterranean region. In this lecture, I report on the investigation of two ambers whose authenticity and geographical source are questionable.

Presenter: Sarjit Kaur

Sarjit Kaur received a B.S in medical technology from Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck in 1978, a M.S in chemistry from Vassar College in 1989, and earned her PhD in chemistry in 1995 from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship with Professor Crivello at RPI, she joined the chemistry department faculty at Vassar College. Sarjit's research interest lies in area of polymer electrolyte membranes, biodegradable polymers for controlled drug release systems, and the study of ambers (fossil resins). Sarjit is the co-director of the Amber Research Laboratory at Vassar College.

So who is this Anthro and how did it become so powerful?

May 18

Seven million years ago, human ancestors were small African apes. Today, Homo sapiens has transformed the planet Earth to the extent that people are considering naming the last 10,000 years of earth history the Anthropocene. This lecture will outline the process of evolution which transformed an animal like any other into one which has changed the very nature of the planet.

Presenter: Lucy Johnson

Lucy Johnson, Professor Emerita of Anthropology, has focused her career on the biological and archaeological history of humans, being particularly focused on the relationship between people and the environment as modi-

fied by technology. Her archaeological research has taken her to many parts of the world with particular focus on insular Alaska and the mid-Hudson Valley.

The Art of Chinese Tea Ceremony(LIFE005)

April 6, 13, 20, 27

Limit: 40

The Chinese tea ceremony is an art that involves tea, tea set, tea water and tea friends. It teaches the thought and spirit of Taoism, which is a relationship between human beings and the universe. It will take five hours for students to learn:

1. The six kinds of tea (green tea, white tea, yellow tea, clear tea, red tea, black tea.)
2. The origins of the six kinds tea.
3. The medical benefit of tea.
4. The storage of tea.
5. The tea water.
6. The tea set.
7. The tea ceremony performance.
8. The spirit of tea.

Presenter: Xiaodong Smith

Xiaodong Smith is an instructor of Chinese language and culture. For more than ten years, Xiaodong taught foreign students at Fudan University in Shanghai and managed a cultural organization. The aim of this course is to introduce the art of the Chinese tea ceremony and help learners understand the spirit of Chinese tea.

How Auto And Property Insurance Works(LIFE007)

April 27, May 4, 11, 18

Limit: 30

This course provides a basic explanation of auto and property insurance products: coverages, how best to utilize the product to the insured's benefit, and why you need it. This course will attempt to de-bunk the "myths and mysteries" associated with insurance, for example, why a company "drops" a client, how defensive driving REALLY works, why certain groups of drivers are more expensive, and what a homeowners policy really covers.

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Presenter: Gerri Ann Brenner

Gerri Ann Brenner was born in Brooklyn, NY. She graduated CCNY 1975, when she moved to Dutchess County. She started with Allstate insurance in 1985, and had her own office in LaGrange from 1988-2000. From 2000 to 2006 she worked in several agencies and from 2006 to 2008 at State Farm. Between 2008-2016 she worked at Robert Alan Agency as office manager, customer service representative agent and trainer. Since 2016 she works at Pleasant Valley Agency. Gerri Ann Brenner taught property and casualty as well as life/health pre-licensing at OCC from 2001 to 2005 and at Bryant & Stratton from 2005-2007.

Presenter: Fred Chromey

Fred Chromey is Professor of Astronomy Emeritus, and Emeritus Director of the Vassar College Observatory from 1990-2016. He is the author of the text: *To Measure the Sky: An Introduction to Observational Astronomy* (2nd ed., 2016).

Friday 5:00-6:15 PM, plus 2
Evenings

Introductory Observational Astronomy (SCIE002)

April 6, 13, 20, 27

**Location: Vassar Astronomical
Observatory**

Limit: 25

This is an introduction to modern ground-based optical observational astronomy, with emphasis on current scientific issues. The course will describe current and projected telescope design, as well as detector technologies and observing techniques. Some material will be technical, but participants will not be expected to have a background in mathematics or astronomy. Students will engage in practical exercises at the 0.8-meter telescope and will acquire digital images of a variety of objects. The course will meet for four afternoon sessions, and if weather permits, will re-convene at dusk on the same day for work at the telescope.

**The following volunteers were responsible for
Spring 2018 program:**

EXECUTIVE

Mihai Grunfeld
Lucy Johnson
Carlie Graves

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Lucy Johnson (Chair)
Joan Blumberg
Linda Cantor
Fred Chromey
Angela Gomez
Muriel Horowitz
Kathy Kurosman
Carole Wolf

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Carlie Graves
Kathy Kurosman

WEB AND COMPUTING

Carlie Graves

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Cary Auerbach
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Ann Patty

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Diana Salsberg

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Linda Cantor
Karin Giglio
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Richard Kortright
Howard Spilke
Miriam Tannen

ADMINISTRATION

Valerie Carlisle
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Sarah Kennedy
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